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4125 Wessex Drive
San Jose, CA 95136
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FCC - MAILROOM

Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Powell,

I understand that you are seeking public comment on the proposal to permit cell phone calls on airplane flights.

I am retired, but still active, taking some flights to visit family and also for some photo tours each year. I generally enjoy flying. But, during the past several years, flying has become less appealing because the flight attendants tell all passengers to pull down their window shades so that people can better watch the movies being shown. I am not interested in most movies. Instead, I often read a book or magazines. I enjoy looking out the window, to see our country (and sometimes other countries), plus cloud formations and other natural events, such as sunsets.

It seems to me that there might be a compromise between movie watchers and window-look-outers. Perhaps the last few rows in the plane could be set aside for people who wish to leave their shades up, without bothering those who watch the movies.

As to cell phone use, their owners are already using them almost anywhere they wish, regardless of people nearby. I have been annoyed by people talking on their cell phones in a grocery store. Also in my local branch bank, where I was trying to talk to a teller at a time when the bank was playing Christmas carols as background music and a bank officer was talking (loudly) on an ordinary phone in the public area AND another person was talking on a cell phone, standing in line nearby. Very annoying!

The movie houses do not permit people to use their cell phones during their movies. They ask people to take them out to the lobby or even outside, so as not to bother others. Where people are crowded together, cell phone use is simply a nuisance.

I can imagine an even greater nuisance on an airplane, where the engine noise is background, people are crowded together, and I might be seated quite near to several people all talking on their cell phones at the same time. That would be just awful! I will give up flying altogether if that happens.

Can you or the airlines think of any possible compromise? Could there be, possibly, a section of the plane set aside for cell phone use? Could there be installed a "phone booth" compartment or two, for use by cell phone users? Please give this some thought.

Yours,

Elizabeth H. Groot
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